ROBERT D. ECKARD, ESQUIRE Attorney for Defendants James Bennett and Bearcat Financial Services, Inc. 3110 U.S. Alternate 19 North Palm Harbor, Florida 34683 (727) 772-1941

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Civil Action No: 08-1539

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, : Plaintiff, :

-against-

ROBERT DURANT, ROBERT JOHNSON, LORI CAPORICCI, JAMES BENNETT, TYDE, INC., and BEARCAT FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.,

Defendants.

DEFENDANTS' JAMES BENNETT AND BEARCAT FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.,
MOTION FOR LEAVE TO SEAL EXHIBIT "F" TO THE DEFENDANTS' JAMES
BENNETT AND BEARCAT FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC. MEMORANDUM OF LAW
IN OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR MONETARY RELIEF AGAINST

DEFENDANTS JAMES BENNETT AND BEARCAT

FINANCIAL SERVICES (DK# 45-6)

COME NOW, Defendants, James Bennett ("Mr. Bennett") and Bearcat Financial Services, Inc. ("Bearcat," together with Mr. Bennett, "Defendants"), by and through their undersigned attorney, and respectfully requests entry of an Order sealing the Mutual Settlement and Release Agreement filed as Exhibit "F" to the Defendants' Memorandum of Law in Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Monetary Relief Against Defendants James Bennett and

SEC v. Bennett, et. al.
Motion for Leave to Seal ECF 45-6
Case Number: 08-1539
Page 1 of 5

Bearcat Financial Services (ECF 45-6). A copy of the Mutual Settlement and Release

Agreement is attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Exhibit "A." In support hereof,

Defendants state as follows:

1. On May 4, 2012, Defendants filed and served their Memorandum of Law in

Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Monetary Relief Against Defendants James Bennett and

Bearcat Financial Services (ECF 45)("Memo in Opposition").

2. Defendants attached a Mutual Settlement and Release Agreement between and

among Defendants, Great American Insurance Companies, Vigilant Insurance Companies, and

Continental Insurance Companies to the Memo in Opposition (ECF 45-6)("Settlement") to show

the amount of money that was paid out by Defendants as a result of the allegations in that

underlying Complaint.

3. However, Paragraph 7 of the Settlement states:

<u>Confidentiality of Agreement.</u> This Agreement and the terms herein shall be deemed and treated confidential and not to be disclosed to any third

party unless authorized by law. This confidentiality agreement does not apply to underwriters, regulators and government agencies.

4. Although by the express terms of the Confidentiality of Agreement section it

would appear to be proper to disclose same to the Plaintiff, once the document was filed it

becomes a public record and then, becomes subject to the provision regarding disclosure to third

parties.

5. The purpose of the attachment of the Settlement is merely to show that sums were

paid out as a result of the allegations in that underlying Complaint. As such, it would be proper

to seal the document.

6. The Settlement is confidential through its express provision and agreement by the parties thereto.

7. In addition, disclosure will result in very serious injury.

8. As such, good cause exists and sealing of the Settlement is proper. *Department of Economic Development v. Arthur Andersen & Co.* (U.S.A.), 924 F.Supp. 449, 487 (S.D.N.Y. 1996).

WHEREFORE, Defendants, James Bennett and Bearcat Financial Services, Inc., respectfully request this Honorable Court seal the Mutual Settlement and Release Agreement that was filed under Docket #45-6, and grant such other relief as may be proper and just.

STATEMENT OF COUNSEL CERTIFYING COMPLIANCE WITH MEET AND CONFER BEFORE THE FILING OF THIS MOTION PER LOCAL RULE 37.3

Counsel for the Defendants hereby files this statement certifying that on this date I have conferred with opposing counsel for the Plaintiff, Securities and Exchange Commission regarding the filing of this Motion and Plaintiff, vis- a-vis Jack Kaufman, has no objections and consents to an Order from this Honorable Court granting this Motion identified above.

/s/ Robert D. Eckard

Robert D. Eckard

SEC v. Bennett, et. al.
Motion for Leave to Seal ECF 45-6
Case Number: 08-1539
Page 3 of 5

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on May 22, 2012, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court by using CM/ECF system. I also certify that the foregoing document is being served this day on all counsel of record on the attached Service List in the manner specified, either via transmission of Notices of Electronic Filing generated by CM/ECF or in some other authorized manner for those counsel or parties who are not authorized or do not receive electronically Notices of Electronic by U.S. Mail and Email at the addresses listed below.

LAW OFFICE OF ROBERT ECKARD & ASSOCIATES, P.A.

/s/ Robert D. Eckard

Robert D. Eckard, Esquire (FBN: 0162655)

□Joelle Fisher, Esquire (FBN: 48204) *Pro hac* status pending

3110 Alternate 19 N.
Palm Harbor, FL 34683
Telephone: (727) 772-1941

Facsimile: (727) 771-7940

E-mail: <u>Robert@RobertEckardLaw.com</u> E-mail: <u>Joelle@RobertEckardLaw.com</u>

SERVICE LIST

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION v. ROBERT DURANT, ROBERT JOHNSON, LORI CAPORICCI, JAMES BENNETT, TYDE, INC., and BEARCAT FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.

Civil Action No. 1:08-cv-01539-JG-RML

United States District Court For The Eastern District Of New York

Jack Kaufman, Esq.
Securities and Exchange Commission
The Woolworth Building
233 Broadway
6th Floor
New York, NY 10279
Email: kaufmanja@sec.gov

Kenneth V. Byrne, Esq. U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission 3 World Financial Center Room 400 New York, NY 10281 Email: byrnek@sec.gov

Winston M. Paes, Esq. United States Attorneys Office Eastern District of New York 271 Cadman Plaza East Brooklyn, NY 11201 Email: winston.paes@usdoj.gov